



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)

ASIA

Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

September 30, 2005

Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 26, 2005

Background

People of the Asia-Pacific region are severely affected by natural hazards such as earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, tsunamis, and wildfires. Asia's vulnerability is compounded by socio-economic conditions that are steadily increasing the impact of disasters. Demographic changes, urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, forcing the settlement of hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. In addition to natural disasters, civil crises and complex emergencies also impede development in the Asia-Pacific region. USAID/OFDA remains committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response capacities in the region for natural disasters and conflicts. Since 1995, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$46.8 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the region. To date in FY 2005, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$5.7 million for disaster preparedness and mitigation projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

USAID/OFDA Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance

Regional

- **Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP)**: Implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in Thailand, AUDMP has received USAID/OFDA assistance since its inception in September 1995. The program aims to make cities safer by reducing the disaster vulnerability of urban populations and by promoting replication and adaptation of successful preparedness measures in targeted cities throughout Asia. AUDMP also promotes sharing of disaster-related information, networking among regional disaster managers, and the development and management of courses for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), disaster management organizations, and regional and national governments. To date, AUDMP has implemented projects in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. In September 2005, ADPC received a grant from USAID/OFDA for a new three-year phase of urban disaster mitigation activities entitled the Program for Hydro-Meteorological Risk Mitigation in Asian Cities (PROMISE). ADPC anticipates conducting PROMISE activities in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Total funding since 1995 is \$9,953,800.....**FY 05 \$500,000**
- **Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), Phase II**: The PEER program is creating a cadre of trained and experienced instructors from emergency response agencies who in turn train others from their organizations. Focusing on earthquake preparedness, the objective of the program is to assist local, regional, and national disaster management agencies in organizing and conducting training in Medical First Response, Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue, and Hospital Preparedness for Emergency Training. The first phase of PEER, managed by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), began in 1998 in India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Phase II of PEER, implemented by the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) based in Nepal, continues the activities begun in the original countries with the addition of Bangladesh. During Phase II, PEER will increase the corps of trainers, adapt courses to national requirements, introduce a hospital-preparedness course for mass casualties, and create a coordinating network of disaster responders in each country. Phase II of PEER began in March 2003 and will continue through March 2008. Total PEER funding since 1998 is \$7,198,117.....**FY 05 \$1,500,000**
- **South Pacific Disaster Training Program, Phase II**: USAID/OFDA has supported the South Pacific Disaster Training Program implemented by The Asia Foundation since 1995. The objectives of the program are to: 1) improve the capacity and performance of local and national disaster management agencies and individuals; 2) develop and adapt training materials relevant to the region; and 3) strengthen the capacity of South Pacific nations to organize and conduct disaster management courses. The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu, participated in the first phase of the program. The second phase, which began in April 2004 and will continue through April 2007, was awarded to The Asia Foundation through a competitive Annual Program Statement solicitation. Phase two includes two new participating countries: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Total funding to date is \$3,060,141.....**FY 05 \$450,000**

- Asia Flood Network: The Asia Flood Network (AFN) strengthens the capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions in climate, weather, and hydrological forecasting while directly involving communities at risk in reducing vulnerability to hydrometeorological hazards. In collaboration with partners in Asia, the AFN is jointly implemented by USAID/OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Current activities are focused on the Mekong and the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Megna (GBM) river basins. USAID/OFDA, in cooperation with NOAA and USGS, has been providing 24-hour satellite estimates and short-term forecasts of rainfall over the Mekong River basin and surrounding areas to the Mekong River Commission (MRC) since 2001. Under AFN, riparian country representatives in Mekong and GBM river basins have been trained on the use of rainfall estimates and forecasts in 2005. In addition, USAID/OFDA, NOAA, and USGS conducted training in collaboration with MRC on flash flood guidance and dissemination of information to vulnerable population in remote areas. The AFN will continue through August 2008. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$1,829,927 of the estimated \$2,500,000 total cost.....**FY 05 \$579,927**
- Technical Assistance for Hydrometeorological Disasters: The U.S. National Weather Service and USGS provide technical advice and guidance to the Mekong River Commission and the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) on various hydro-meteorological issues including community based flood mitigation, data collection systems using telecommunications for real-time data collection and transmission, and data sharing in trans-boundary river basins. Total project funding to date is \$170,000.
- Volcano Disaster Assistance Project (VDAP): The USAID/OFDA-funded VDAP program, implemented by the USGS, provides technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations. In Asia, VDAP provides technical assistance to the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, and to the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory in Papua New Guinea. In FY 2005, VDAP initiated a multi-year project to assist the Indonesian Directorate of Volcanology and Geologic Hazards Mitigation to improve volcano hazard monitoring and assessment through construction of a regional volcano observatory for North Sulawesi and the nearby Sangihe island volcanoes, where more than a half million people live on the flanks of hazardous volcanoes. VDAP assistance includes training on conducting hazard assessments, development of early warning plans, installation and updating of volcano monitoring equipment, and technology transfers.....**FY 05 \$300,000**

South Asia

- India Earthquake Safety Initiative: Implemented by Geohazard International, the objectives of the program are to conduct risk assessments and risk reduction activities in 20 of India's most earthquake-prone urban areas, and implement mitigation activities in 5 of those areas. This program, co-funded by USAID/OFDA and USAID/India, began in September 2002 and will continue until October 2005. Total USAID/OFDA funding to date is \$650,000.
- Incident Command System (ICS) Training: Co-funded by USAID/OFDA and USAID/India through an interagency agreement with the U.S. Forest Service, this capacity-building program provides ICS training and simulation exercises at the national and state levels in India and the region. The program also provides technical assistance and training to government and non-government disaster managers to assist them in developing coordinated disaster response planning. The first phase of ICS trainings ran from April 2002 through April 2004. The second phase will continue through September 2006. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$1,706,712 to support the program.
- Regional Flood Forecasting: USAID/OFDA supports technical assessments and forums that bring together decision-makers and technical personnel from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region to promote collaboration and share information related to flood management, flood early warning systems, and broader trans-boundary water issues. The forums are hosted by the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan participate in the program. The support to ICIMOD began in November 2001 and will continue through December 2005. Total funding to date is \$250,860.
- Community Flood Monitoring and Forecasting in Bangladesh: Implemented by Riverside Technology Inc., this five-year USAID/OFDA project supports a community-based approach for flood monitoring and forecasting to reduce the vulnerability of communities living in floodplains and mitigate future flood damage in Bangladesh. The project began in September 2002 and ends in September 2007. Total funding to date is \$576,977.....**FY 05 \$180,000**
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Plan: The National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) in Kathmandu, Nepal works with the Government of Nepal, NGOs, schools, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness by coordinating and monitoring the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan

for the Kathmandu Valley. The project began in September 2000 and will continue through August 2006. Total funding to date is \$651,555.....**FY 05 \$100,000**

- Emergency Flood Preparedness in Bangladesh: CARE (lead agency), Save the Children – US, and World Vision have joined to form the Emergency Working Group of Cooperative Sponsors (EWG) in order to improve emergency response to floods in Bangladesh. The EWG will reduce the incidence of health problems associated with a disaster, particularly water-borne diseases. With USAID/OFDA funding, the EWG will foster coordination between communities and local authorities, maintain and operate a mobile water purification plant and zodiac boats, and operate a mobile health clinic/water ambulance. Total funding to date is \$293,103.....**FY 05 \$293,013**

Southeast Asia

- Flood Early Warning Systems in the Mekong River Basin: This activity is implemented by the Mekong River Commission (MRC), an inter-governmental river basin organization based in Vientiane, Laos. The governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam participate in the USAID/OFDA-funded activities that increase flood forecasting capacity and early warning information transfer to communities in the Lower Mekong River Basin. The project will strengthen flood warnings by making communities more responsive to the needs of at-risk populations in Cambodia and Laos, and will develop tools, methods, and protocols with community-based partners to enable flood-vulnerable populations to mobilize quickly in response to MRC flood information. This five-year program began in January 2003 and ends in January 2008. Total funding to date is \$1,954,855..... **FY 05 \$344,855**
- Climate Forecast Applications: This project is a follow-up initiative to the 1998-2003 “El Niño related” Extreme Climate Events Program. The objective of the Climate Forecast Applications project, implemented by the ADPC, is to strengthen the national capabilities of Indonesia and the Philippines to manage and reduce the impacts of climate fluctuations through targeted demonstration projects and community participation. The project develops decision support tools and capacities to reduce vulnerability to climate variability at the community level and mobilize communities to utilize the climate forecast data for agriculture and other livelihood purposes. The second-phase of the program began in April 2003 and will conclude in April 2008. Total funding to date of both phases is \$2,048,863..... **FY 05 \$250,000**
- Flood Early Warning System in Central Vietnam: USAID/OFDA has funded the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) since June 2000 to develop flood early warning systems in the Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Binh Dinh provinces of central Vietnam. Working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s (GVN) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the program includes: 1) training of disaster officials and the affected populations on the use of flood mapping to reduce loss of life, economic consequences, and disruption of livelihoods; 2) implementation of river flood alert systems in three river basins in central Vietnam; and 3) a television and radio flood disaster warning system at the national level and in three provinces of Vietnam. A fourth activity, flood proofing of homes in the poorest flood-prone villages, was initiated in September 2005. Total project funding to date is \$1,394,250.....**FY 05 \$180,250**
- Coastal Storm Early Warning System in Vietnam: USAID/OFDA provides funding to UNDP, working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s (GVN) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, for the implementation of a radio-based coastal storm warning system. Using radio broadcasts, the project will provide early warnings for fishing boats up to 65 miles offshore and for 25 coastal provinces of Vietnam. The NOAA National Weather Service assisted the GVN with the design of the storm warning system. The U.N. Development Program (UNDP) is working with the GVN to design community-based disaster preparedness training for subsistence fishing populations at the commune and village levels. This project began in May 2001 and will continue through December 2005. Total project funding to date is \$1,440,000.
- Conflict Preparedness Program in Mindanao, Philippines: Implemented by Save the Children/Philippines, the first phase of this initiative supported disaster preparedness activities for response to new internal displacement and provide prompt access to these populations in the conflict-affected areas of western Mindanao. The program supports an emergency response network of local NGOs and community-based groups to implement preparedness and relief activities, provide small grants to local NGOs, and create small stockpiles of locally procured relief items for emergencies. The second phase of this initiative supports returning internally displaced persons (IDPs) through livelihood interventions using seeds and tools, basic fishing equipment, and other targeted enhancements for community stabilization. The program also supports community activities to ensure potable water resources. Initiated in March 2003, these programs will continue until October 2006. Total project funding to date is \$1,000,000.

- **Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response in Indonesia:** The International Medical Corps (IMC), with USAID/OFDA support, is promoting the technical, administrative, financial, and logistical capabilities of Ambulan 118, a leading Indonesian NGO, to respond rapidly and effectively to disasters in Indonesia. Through this project, IMC will strengthen and expand training in emergency relief best practices and create a training-of-trainers program. In addition, Ambulan 118 and IMC will pre-position medical and non-medical equipment and supplies in the field. This project began in September 2005 and will continue through September 2007. Total project funding to date is \$750,000.....**FY 05 \$750,000**
- **Avian Influenza Preparedness:** Since December 2003, 10 Asian countries have reported outbreaks of the “H5N1” Avian Influenza virus, and 53 people have died in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand. In FY 2004, USAID/OFDA provided \$250,000 to the U.N. World Health Organization to support avian influenza containment activities in the region. In FY 2005, USAID/OFDA pre-positioned 10,000 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the countries most at risk - Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Indonesia. USAID/OFDA is an active participant of USAID’s Avian Influenza Working Group, which works with other agencies involved in Avian Influenza preparedness and response, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of State, and U.S. Department of Defense. The USG is working to improve surveillance and strengthen capacity to respond to outbreaks in humans and animals, and promote pandemic preparedness planning. USAID/OFDA funding to date is \$491,450..... **FY 05 \$241,450**

USAID/OFDA FY 2005 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance to date.....\$5,669,585

USAID/OFDA FY 2005 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance by Sector

Project Name	Hydro-Met	Earthquakes/ Volcanoes	Health	Multi-Hazard
AUDMP/PROMISE	\$500,000			
PEER, Phase II		\$750,000		\$750,000
South Pacific Disaster Training, Phase II				\$450,000
Asia Flood Network	\$579,927			
Volcano Disaster Assistance Project		\$300,000		
Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh	\$180,000			
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness		\$100,000		
Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness	\$293,103			
Mekong River Basin Flood Early Warning	\$344,855			
Climate Forecast Applications	\$250,000			
Vietnam Flood Early Warning	\$180,250			
Indonesia Emergency Preparedness and Response			\$375,000	\$375,000
Avian Influenza Preparedness			\$241,450	
Total: \$5,669,585	\$2,328,135	\$1,150,000	\$616,450	\$1,575,000

Total Cost of Current Programs to Date

Project Name	Hydro-Met	Earthquakes/ Volcanoes	Health	Conflict	Multi-Hazard
AUDMP	\$500,000				\$9,453,800
PEER		\$3,599,059			\$3,599,059
South Pacific Disaster Training, Phase II					\$3,060,141
Asia Flood Network	\$1,829,927				
Technical Assistance for Hydrometeorological Disasters	\$170,000				
Volcano Disaster Assistance Project		\$2,500,000			
India Earthquake Safety Initiative		\$650,000			

ICS Training					\$1,706,712
Regional Flood Forecasting	\$250,860				
Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh	\$576,977				
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness		\$651,555			
Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness	\$293,103				
Mekong River Basin Flood Early Warning	\$1,954,855				
Climate Forecast Applications	\$2,048,863				
Vietnam Flood Early Warning	\$1,394,250				
Vietnam Coastal Storm Early Warning	\$1,440,000				
Philippines Conflict Preparedness				\$1,000,000	
Indonesia Preparedness and Response			\$375,000		\$375,000
Avian Influenza Preparedness			\$491,450		
Total: \$37,920,611 •	\$10,458,835	\$7,400,614	\$866,450	\$1,000,000	\$18,194,712

USAID fact sheets and situation reports can be obtained from the USAID website at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/

• Including programs that have already been completed, total USAID/OFDA expenditures for all disaster preparedness and mitigation activities in Asia since 1995 are \$46.8 million.